

Claims

The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

1. A protective laminate for a beverage can, comprising:
 - (a) at least one layer disposed across substantially an entire upper surface of a top of said beverage can; and
 - (b) said at least one layer having therein at least one score or die-cut line adapted to facilitate manual removal of said at least a portion of said at least one layer before a person consumes contents of said beverage can.
2. A protective laminate for a beverage can, as defined in Claim 1, wherein: said at least one score or die-cut line is formed around a dispensing orifice of said beverage can.
3. A protective laminate for a beverage can, as defined in Claim 1, wherein: said at least one score or die-cut line is formed such that said at least one layer can be manually removed in its entirety from said upper surface of said top of said beverage can.
4. A protective laminate for a beverage can, as defined in Claim 3, further comprising: a raised area adjacent said at least one score or die-cut line to facilitate manual peeling of said at least one layer from said top of said beverage can.
5. A protective laminate for a beverage can, as defined in Claim 1, wherein: said at least one layer is colored.

6. A protective laminate for a beverage can, as defined in Claim 1, wherein: said at least one layer has printed thereon indicia.
7. A protective laminate for a beverage can, as defined in Claim 1, wherein: said at least one layer has incorporated therein a temperature sensitive material that changes colors depending on temperature.
8. A protective laminate for a beverage can, as defined in Claim 1, wherein: said at least one layer has incorporated therein a temperature sensitive material that changes from one color to another color when a target chilled temperature is reached.
9. A protective laminate for a beverage can, as defined in Claim 1, wherein: a temperature sensitive layer is disposed on said top of said can before said at least one layer is disposed on said top of said can.
10. A protective laminate for a beverage can, as defined in Claim 1, wherein: said at least one layer comprises at least two layers.
11. A protective laminate for a beverage can, as defined in Claim 1, wherein: said laminate is incorporated as part of metal stock before can components are formed and assembled therefrom.
12. A protective laminate for a beverage can, comprising: a temperature sensitive material printed or coated across a top of said beverage can, said temperature sensitive material not being adapted to be removed before a person consumes contents of said beverage can.

13. A method of manufacturing a protective laminate for a beverage can, comprising:

- (a) providing at least one layer disposed across substantially an entire upper surface of a top of said beverage can; and
- (b) providing said at least one layer having therein at least one score or die-cut line adapted to facilitate manual removal of said at least a portion of said at least one layer before a person consumes contents of said beverage can.

14. A method of manufacturing a protective laminate for a beverage can, as defined in Claim 13, further comprising: providing said at least one score or die-cut line formed around a dispensing orifice of said beverage can.

15. A method of manufacturing a protective laminate for a beverage can, as defined in Claim 13, further comprising: providing said at least one score or die-cut line formed such that said at least one layer can be manually removed in its entirety from said upper surface of said top of said beverage can.

16. A method of manufacturing a protective laminate for a beverage can, as defined in Claim 15, further comprising: providing a raised area adjacent said at least one score or die-cut line to facilitate manual peeling of said at least one layer from said top of said beverage can.

17. A method of manufacturing a protective laminate for a beverage can, as defined in Claim 13, further comprising: providing said at least one layer colored.

18. A method of manufacturing a protective laminate for a beverage can, as defined in Claim 13, further comprising: printing indicia on said at least one layer.

19. A method of manufacturing a protective laminate for a beverage can, as defined in Claim 13, further comprising: incorporating in said at least one layer a temperature sensitive material that changes colors depending on temperature.

20. A method of manufacturing a protective laminate for a beverage can, as defined in Claim 13, further comprising: incorporating in said at least one layer a temperature sensitive material that changes from one color to another color when a target chilled temperature is reached.

21. A method of manufacturing a protective laminate for a beverage can, as defined in Claim 13, further comprising: providing a temperature sensitive layer disposed on said top of said can before said at least one layer is disposed on said top of said can.

22. A method of manufacture a protective laminate for a beverage can, as defined in Claim 13, further comprising: providing said at least one layer as at least two layers.

23. A method of manufacturing a protective laminate for a beverage can, as defined in Claim 13, further comprising: incorporating said laminate as part of metal stock before can components are formed and assembled therefrom.

24. A method of manufacturing a protective laminate for a beverage can, comprising: printing or coating a temperature sensitive material across a top of said beverage can, said temperature sensitive material not being adapted to be removed before a person consumes contents of said beverage can.